

44192(1)

EX



PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE

REPORT

OF THE

Senior Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1965

C O N T E N T S

| | <u>Page</u> |
|---|-------------|
| Introduction | 1 |
| Section I - Summary of Statistics | 3 |
| Section II - Natural and Social Conditions | 8 |
| Section III - Meteorology | 9 |
| Section IV - General Provision of Health Services | 11 |
| Section V - Sanitary Circumstances | 15 |
| Section VI - Housing | 20 |
| Section VII - Prevalence of, and control over infectious disease | 22 |
| Section VIII - Inspection and supervision of food | 25 |
| Port Health Administration | 29 |
| Annual Report of Chief Public Health Inspector | 30 |



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30029247>

BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE - JUNE 1965

CHAIRMAN:

Alderman W.L. Austin

VICE-CHAIRMAN:

Councillor S.C. Haywood, B.E.M., J.P.

His Worship the Mayor
(Alderman F.R. Smith, J.P.)

Alderman J. Barnett

Councillor C.H. Barton

" Miss L.C. Chamberlain

" J. Hill

" R. Hunt

" K. Jones

" Mrs. E. Kemp

" D.W.J. Miles

" Mrs. J. Neeves

" Mrs. P.F. Williams

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

G.L. Brocklehurst, M.D. (Lond.), D.P.H.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

C.H. Weller, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (a) (b)

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS:

F. Brown, M.A.P.H.I. (a) (b) (d)

T.C.P. Mansell (b) (c)

D. Liles, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (b) (c)

A.J. Longley (Pupil)

CLERICAL STAFF:

J.S. Robertson

Miss F. Holliday

DISINFECTOR:

G.C. Riordan

RODENT OPERATOR:

V.C. Barker

PUBLIC ANALYST:

J.H.E. Marshall, M.A., F.R.I.C. Canterbury.

- (a) Certificate of R.S.I., and S.I.Exam. Joint Board
- (b) Certified Inspector of Meat and Other Foods
- (c) Certificate P.H.I. Education Board
- (d) Certificate, Food Hygiene, R.S.I.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS

OF THE BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my fourth Annual Report on the health of the Borough for the year 1965.

Population

The Registrar General gives an estimated population of 38,460, an increase of 260 over the figure for 1964, the small increase no doubt being due to people taking up residence in new accommodation in the area.

Births

Reference to the statistical information shows that there was also a slight increase in the actual number of births, giving a Birth Rate of 20.2 per 1,000 of population, the rate comparing favourably with the national rate.

Criticism was made last year concerning the number of illegitimate births, which then was 10.8 per cent of the total. It is to be regretted that the position is even worse for 1965. The total number of live births registered was 656, and of this total no less than 79 were illegitimate, giving a figure of 12.0 per cent.

Deaths

The total number of deaths came to 585 and analysis of the causes does not show any appreciable change in any one specific cause.

The Infantile deaths, i.e. deaths of infants under one year of age, shows a decrease as compared with 1964. In all, 15 children under one year of age died. Of these, 4 were the subject in Inquests, the cause of death being due to circumstances which the Coroner decided should be investigated. The remainder of the deaths were due to causes which were not referred to the Coroner, such as Prematurity etc.

Cancer

For the past five years the number of deaths due to cancer has remained static, and it may be that people are becoming educated to the fact that early diagnosis is essential. In 1965, 107 deaths were attributed to cancer, 29 of these being cancer of the lung.

General

The incidence of infectious disease remained low. No serious disease was notified and the only large number of cases notified was among children who had contracted measles.

Conclusion

As this is the last report I shall present, I should like to take the opportunity of thanking the Chairman and members of the Health and Housing Committee for their support and encouragement during the past four years. I am sorry that my period in Ramsgate has been short. To the staff of the Department and other officials of the Corporation, I extend my thanks for their co-operation and help, which, fortunately, one regards as an accepted fact in the Local Government service.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

G. L. BROCKLEHURST,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION I - SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

| | |
|--|------------|
| Area of Borough in acres | 3,624 |
| Registrar General's estimate of population | 38,460 |
| Units of accommodation | 12,974 |
| Rateable value at 31.12.65. | £1,412,112 |
| General Rate | 12/1d. |
| Sum represented by a penny rate | £5,500 |

BIRTHS

| | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>TOTAL</u> | <u>Total</u> <u>1964</u> |
|------------------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| Number of live births: | | | | |
| Legitimate | 283 | 294 | 577 | 543 |
| Illegitimate | 32 | 47 | 79 | 66 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| | 315 | 341 | 656 | 609 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |

BIRTH RATE

| | |
|--|------|
| Uncorrected Birth Rate per 1,000 of population | 17.0 |
| Corrected Birth Rate per 1,000 of population | 20.2 |

(England and Wales - 18.0)

The illegitimate births formed 12% of the total and were equal to 2.0 per 1,000 of the population.

In order to meet the unequal distribution of the population according to age and sex, the Registrar General has supplied a correction factor of 1.19, and when the uncorrected Birth Rate is multiplied by this factor, it results in a corrected rate of 20.2.

STILLBIRTHS

| | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>TOTAL</u> | <u>Total 1964</u> |
|--------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| Legitimate | 1 | 1 | 2 | 11 |
| Illegitimate | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 |

The stillbirth rate per 1,000 total births was 6.0 as compared with 15.7 for England and Wales.

INFANTILE DEATHS

| | <u>Legitimate:</u> | | <u>Illegitimate:</u> | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------|--------------|
| | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>TOTAL</u> |
| PERINATAL (Under one week) | 2 | 5 | 1 | - | 8 |
| NEO-NATAL (Under one month) | 3 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 10 |
| INFANTILE (Total under one year) | 6 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 15 |

(Total 1964 - 22)

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births:-

| | |
|--------------|---------------------------------|
| TOTAL | 22.8 (England and Wales = 19.0) |
| Legitimate | 22.5 |
| Illegitimate | 25.3 |

TOTAL DEATHS

| | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>TOTAL</u> | <u>1964</u> |
|---|-------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|
| Total number of deaths from all causes and at all ages. | 317 | 268 | 585 | 542 |

TOTAL DEATH RATE

| | |
|--|------|
| Uncorrected rate per 1,000 of population | 15.2 |
| Corrected rate per 1,000 of population | 11.2 |
| England and Wales | 11.5 |

The Death Rate shows an increase of 0.4 per 1,000 of population compared with 1964. The Registrar General has supplied a correction factor of 0.74 and when the uncorrected Death Rate is multiplied by this factor it results in a Corrected Rate of 11.2.

During 1965, the number of deaths increased by 43 as compared with the previous year, and as usual the preponderance occurred in persons over 65 years of age.

The following Table shows the causes of the total deaths as given in the Registrar General's statistics:-

| CAUSE OF DEATH | | MALE | FEMALE |
|----------------|--|------|--------|
| 1. | Tuberculosis - respiratory | - | - |
| 2. | " - other | - | - |
| 3. | Syphilitic disease | 1 | - |
| 4. | Diphtheria | - | - |
| 5. | Whooping Cough | - | - |
| 6. | Meningococcal infections | - | - |
| 7. | Acute Poliomyelitis | - | - |
| 8. | Measles | - | - |
| 9. | Other infective and parasitic diseases | - | 2 |
| 10. | Malignant neoplasm, stomach | 9 | 3 |
| 11. | " " lung, bronchus | 22 | 7 |
| 12. | " " breast | - | 6 |
| 13. | " " uterus | - | 1 |
| 14. | Other malignant and lymphatic conditions | 37 | 22 |
| 15. | Leukaemia, aleukaemia | 1 | 2 |
| 16. | Diabetes | 2 | 2 |
| 17. | Vascular lesions of nervous system | 36 | 41 |
| 18. | Coronary disease, angina | 65 | 38 |
| 19. | Hypertension with heart disease | 4 | 4 |
| 20. | Other heart disease | 33 | 62 |
| 21. | Other circulatory diseases | 13 | 16 |
| 22. | Influenza | 1 | - |
| 23. | Pneumonia | 20 | 14 |
| 24. | Bronchitis | 26 | 8 |
| 25. | Other diseases of respiratory system | 2 | 2 |
| 26. | Ulcer of stomach and duodenum | 3 | 2 |
| 27. | Gastritis, enteritis, diarrhoea | 1 | 1 |
| 28. | Nephritis, nephrosis | 3 | - |
| 29. | Hyperplasia of prostate | 4 | - |
| 30. | Pregnancy, childbirth etc. | - | - |
| 31. | Congenital malformations | 3 | 1 |
| 32. | Other defined and ill-defined diseases | 18 | 27 |
| 33. | Motor vehicle accidents | 4 | - |
| 34. | All other accidents | 6 | 5 |
| 35. | Suicide | 3 | 2 |
| 36. | Homicide and operations of war | - | - |

TOTAL

317

268

NUMBER OF DEATHS ACCORDING TO AGE AND SEX

| Age group | Males | Females | TOTAL |
|---------------|-------|---------|-------|
| Under 1 year | 7 | 8 | 15 |
| 1 - 5 years | 2 | - | 2 |
| 5 - 15 years | 1 | - | 1 |
| 15 - 25 years | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| 25 - 35 years | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| 35 - 45 years | 5 | 5 | 10 |
| 45 - 55 years | 21 | 8 | 29 |
| 55 - 65 years | 60 | 23 | 83 |
| 65 - 75 years | 98 | 69 | 167 |
| Over 75 years | 118 | 152 | 270 |
| TOTAL | 317 | 268 | 585 |

TREND OF MORTALITY FROM PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH

| Year | CANCER: Total Lung # | Vascular lesions | Heart diseases | Tuber- culosis | Bronchitis and Pneumonia |
|------|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1950 | 71 11 (15.5) * | 52 | 143 | 16 | 44 |
| 1951 | 80 16 (18.2) | 92 | 157 | 17 | 54 |
| 1952 | 93 16 (17.2) | 77 | 152 | 10 | 39 |
| 1953 | 76 13 (17.1) | 60 | 123 | 11 | 30 |
| 1954 | 60 11 (18.3) | 65 | 135 | 5 | 35 |
| 1955 | 78 13 (16.6) | 50 | 121 | 5 | 29 |
| 1956 | 80 12 (15.0) | 59 | 136 | 2 | 41 |
| 1957 | 87 17 (19.5) | 54 | 131 | 6 | 41 |
| 1958 | 90 15 (15.3) | 59 | 173 | 4 | 57 |
| 1959 | 89 17 (19.1) | 59 | 150 | 2 | 53 |
| 1960 | 83 18 (21.7) | 72 | 136 | 5 | 47 |
| 1961 | 101 29 (28.7) | 78 | 185 | 5 | 47 |
| 1962 | 111 30 (27.0) | 64 | 203 | 1 | 69 |
| 1963 | 112 30 (26.7) | 59 | 223 | 2 | 71 |
| 1964 | 107 29 (27.1) | 77 | 169 | 1 | 63 |
| 1965 | 107 29 (27.1) | 77 | 206 | - | 68 |

Percentage
of total
deaths in

1965:-13.3 4.9 13.1 35.2 - 11.6

* The figures in brackets show the percentage of cancer deaths due to cancer of the lung.

S E C T I O N I I

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The greater part of Ramsgate is situated on high ground with a chalky sub-soil, 17 miles from Canterbury and 72 miles from London.

There is a favourable sunshine rate with a low rainfall. While other parts of the country are experiencing rainy weather, this area frequently enjoys sunshine and dryness.

The prevailing winds are westerly, but when northerly or easterly winds prevail, the situation of the Borough affords considerable protection from them. The wide expanse of sands which extend on either side of the Harbour, provides walks and enjoyment for visitors. The Harbour, with its three quarter mile of piers, is open to the public and encloses an area in the outer basin of 35 acres and 12 acres in the inner basin, provides a health giving walk with ever changing interests.

Employment in the Borough is provided by hotels, boarding houses and catering establishments, brewing, flour milling, manufacture of drugs and plastics, doll and stocking making, engineering, tool making and ship and yacht repairs.

Most of the manufactories are situated on the outskirts of the town, and as a consequence fog and atmospheric pollution are almost unknown.

S E C T I O N I I I

M E T E O R O L O G Y

The principal part of the station is situated on the East Cliff Promenade and consists of a standard fenced enclosure 30 feet by 20 feet, containing the following instruments:-

| | | |
|------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| Dry Bulb Thermometer | } | Mounted in a Stevenson Screen. |
| Wet Bulb Thermometer | | |
| Maximum Thermometer | | |
| Minimum Thermometer | | |
| Rain Gauge - 5 inch diameter | | |

Geographical position - Latitude $51^{\circ} 20'N.$
Longitude $1^{\circ} 25'E.$

Height above sea level - 80 feet

A Campbell Stokes Sunshine Recorder is set up on a platform on the roof of Albion House.

A Kew pattern Barometer, graduated in Millibars, is kept in the Municipal Buildings.

Readings are taken daily at 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. throughout the year, and coded telegrams sent to the Air Ministry at these times.

During the summer season, an Information Board is maintained in the fenced enclosure, giving details of Sunshine, Rainfall and Temperatures, together with the official forecast for the S.E. Region.

In addition, two separate boards are maintained at the Main Sands Bathing Station and by the East Cliff Lift, giving comparative weekly Sunshine and Rainfall figures for Ramsgate and other Resorts.

Weather details of special interest to visitors are broadcast from the Main Sands Bathing Station.

SUNSHINE

| <u>MONTH</u> | <u>TOTAL</u> | | | | |
|--------------|--------------|--------|---------------|-----|--------|
| January | 68.3 | Hours. | Daily Average | 2.2 | Hours. |
| February | 58.2 | " | " | 2.1 | " |
| March | 128.8 | " | " | 4.2 | " |
| April | 137.5 | " | " | 4.6 | " |
| May | 208.1 | " | " | 6.7 | " |
| June | 204.1 | " | " | 6.8 | " |
| July | 150.6 | " | " | 4.9 | " |
| August | 219.8 | " | " | 7.1 | " |
| September | 180.6 | " | " | 6.0 | " |
| October | 166.4 | " | " | 5.4 | " |
| November | 93.4 | " | " | 3.1 | " |
| December | 61.1 | " | " | 2.0 | " |
| Years TOTAL: | 1676.9 | " | | | |
| | ===== | " | | | |

Most sunshine

| <u>MONTH</u> | <u>in any one day.</u> | <u>DATE</u> | <u>Sunless Days</u> |
|--------------|------------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| January | 7.0 Hours. | 14 | 12 |
| February | 6.8 " | 14 & 26 | 12 |
| March | 12.0 " | 28 | 4 |
| April | 10.7 " | 30 | 4 |
| May | 14.1 " | 19 | 2 |
| June | 13.6 " | 28 | 2 |
| July | 14.1 " | 24 | 2 |
| August | 12.9 " | 11 | 1 |
| September | 10.9 " | 4 | 2 |
| October | 10.0 " | 4 | 4 |
| November | 8.4 " | 3 | 10 |
| December | 6.9 " | 6 | 10 |

RAINFALL

| <u>MONTH</u> | <u>TOTAL</u> | <u>Most rain in any one day</u> |
|--------------|--------------|---------------------------------|
| January | 2.64 Inches | 0.35 Inches |
| February | 0.50 " | 0.17 " |
| March | 1.99 " | 0.31 " |
| April | 2.02 " | 0.33 " |
| May | 1.52 " | 0.37 " |
| June | 2.16 " | 0.76 " |
| July | 1.99 " | 0.36 " |
| August | 2.51 " | 0.77 " |
| September | 4.01 " | 1.87 " |
| October | 0.62 " | 0.29 " |
| November | 2.23 " | 0.45 " |
| December | 3.23 " | 0.50 " |
| Years TOTAL: | 25.42 " | |
| | ===== | |

SECTION IV

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Samples of water, ice cream and other pathological specimens are sent to the nearest Public Health Laboratory situated at Preston Hall, Maidstone.

Examinations of pathological specimens are also carried out at the laboratories at the Ramsgate and Margate General Hospitals for medical practitioners.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

In August, 1963 the new ambulance station was opened. This is situated in Haine Road, Ramsgate and provides accommodation for ambulances and sitting cars and also office and rest room facilities.

A total of ten ambulances and nine cars for sitting cases are based at the station; all ambulances are fitted with radio, which greatly assists the smooth administration of the service.

A total of 13,715 journeys were made by all vehicles, 89,466 patients being involved, and 289,411 miles covered. In addition 1,818 emergency cases were dealt with. All these figures show an appreciable increase over the previous year.

MEDICAL COMFORTS

Medical comforts, such as bath chairs, bed rests etc. can be hired from the St. John Ambulance Corps, St. Pauls Hall, Sussex Street, for a small weekly hire charge. The depot is open daily between 6.30 - 7.30 p.m. and provides a useful service both for residents and visitors. Emergency requests are dealt with by the Superintendent, telephone Thanet 51017. In addition, a First Aid Beach hut is provided and manned by the Corps during the summer season at which minor accidents can be dealt with on the spot, thus relieving a certain amount of pressure on the Ambulance Service. A mobile first aid caravan is also provided which covers all sporting and outdoor events.

MORTUARY

The Municipal Mortuary situated in the grounds of the Police Station continues to function. The number of bodies admitted during the year was 82, all of which had post mortems carried out.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

The following table gives particulars of the days and times of clinics which are provided by the Kent County Council:-

Maternity and Child Welfare

| <u>At Health Centre</u> | | <u>At Broad Street</u> |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Infant Clinics: | Monday) Wednesday) 2 - 4 p.m. | Tuesday) Thursday) 2 - 4 p.m. |

School Health Service

Minor Ailments: Monday) 9. 30 a.m.
Wednesday)

Dental Clinics: By appointment

Orthopaedic " "

Ophthalmic " Tuesday 9 - 11 a.m.

HOSPITALS

The Secretary of the Ramsgate Wing, Isle of Thanet Hospital, informs me that the following patients were dealt with during 1965:-

| | | <u>1965</u> | <u>1964</u> |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| In-Patients: | Maternity | 1200 | 1165 |
| | Others | 2181 | 2071 |
| Out-Patients: | Accident and Emergency Department | 6035 | 6324 |
| Special Departments: | | | |
| | Medical | 357 | 303 |
| | Surgical | 1057 | 1200 |
| | Gynaecological | 337 | 338 |
| | Ophthalmic | 605 | 557 |
| | Paediatric | 90 | 99 |
| | Ear, Nose and Throat | 841 | 634 |
| | Rheumatic | 186 | 104 |
| | Ante-natal | 550 | 551 |
| | Post-natal | 415 | 392 |
| | Dermatological | 299 | 244 |
| | Mental Illness | 183 | 182 |
| | Orthopaedic | 1471 | 1479 |
| | Dental | 98 | 107 |
| | Physical Medicine | 173 | 154 |
| | Diseases of the Chest | 213 | 262 |
| | Radiotherapy | 79 | 171 |

The number of units of work (examination and/or treatment) performed in the Radiological and Physiotherapy Departments was:-

| | <u>1965</u> | <u>1964</u> |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|
| Radiological | 17770 | 18452 |
| Physiotherapy | 19972 | 16407 |

Individual patients' requests involving work in the Pathological Department:-

| <u>1965</u> | <u>1964</u> |
|-------------|-------------|
| 13607 | 14020 |

NURSING HOMES ACT, 1963

On the 15th May, 1963, The Nursing Homes Act, 1963, came into operation. This Act repeals Section 192 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which originally dealt with exemption from registration of Nursing Homes, and also empowers the Minister of Health to make Regulations as to the conduct of these Homes.

Subsequently, The Conduct of Nursing Homes Regulations came into operation as from 27th August, 1963. These Regulations are similar to those previously in operation for the conduct of disabled and old persons homes and Registration Authorities now have powers similar to those applied to residential and mental nursing homes.

One registration was voluntarily surrendered in the early part of 1965 and at the end of the year there were three Nursing Homes on the register providing 94 beds for medical cases.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948, section 47. NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951

These Acts give authority to secure necessary care and attention for persons who -

- (a) are suffering from grave chronic disease, or being aged and infirm or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions, and
- (b) are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention.

It is not found necessary to make application to the Court for the removal of any persons coming within the categories mentioned, but enquiries were made into the circumstances of 2 elderly persons.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, SECTION 50

Three persons were buried during 1965 by the Local Authority.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

This service is provided by the Kent County Council and covers a wide range of cases which require assistance in this connection.

A panel of approximately 50 helpers deal with 310 - 320 cases each week.

HOME NURSING

MIDWIFERY SERVICE

These services are provided by the Kent County Council.
Four District Nurses and four Midwives are employed in the Borough.

S E C T I O N V

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

There has been no change in the source of supply, which is sufficient for all purposes. Should the need arise it can be augmented from other sources within the area served by the Thanet Water Board.

The water is drawn from the deep chalk and is very hard, though much of this is temporary and is removed by heating, thus leaving the typical 'fur' on the inside of pipes and kettles.

Although a high standard of purity is expected, and indeed is maintained, all water is chlorinated before passing into the public supply.

Water is sampled frequently by the officers of the Thanet Water Board and submitted for bacteriological examination; independent samples are also taken at regular intervals by the Public Health Inspectors, also for bacteriological examination. This ensures a complete coverage and provides a further check on the supply. Bacteriological examination of water is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory service, Preston Hall, Maidstone. A total of 48 samples were submitted for examination, and all were reported as being satisfactory.

In addition, four samples were taken and submitted to the South Eastern Laboratory, Canterbury, for chemical analysis, and a copy of one of the reports, on a sample taken in October, 1965, is reproduced hereunder:-

Appearance: Clear and bright
Odour: Chlorinous.

| | <u>parts per million</u> |
|--|--------------------------|
| Free Chlorine | 0.15 |
| Free Ammonia | nil |
| Albuminoid ammonia | nil |
| Nitrogen as nitrite | nil |
| Nitrogen as nitrate | 9.0 |
| Chlorine as chlorides | 99 |
| Alkalinity as CaCO_3 | 260 |
| Total Hardness | 322 |
| Permanent Hardness | 62 |
| Sulphate | 39 |
| Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in 4 hours | 0.05 |
| Total Solids | 550 |
| pH value | 7.2 |

I am indebted to the Borough Engineer for the information concerning drainage and sewerage, refuse collection and disposal, and public cleansing, as under:-

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The sewage pumping station of Foads Lane, Cliffsend, built in connection with the Manston and Cliffsend Drainage Scheme, came into operation on 6th July, 1964, and by the end of that year most of the properties within the drainage area had been connected to the new system.

The existing cesspools were pumped dry, partially filled and the tops sealed with concrete. Public highways throughout the drainage area were provided with surface drainage, either with new gullies or by the connection of existing gullies to the main sewer.

In 1965 a tender for the extension of the main drainage system of the Preston Farm area was accepted by the Council and loan sanction for the expenditure is awaited.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The Council have decided to adopt the paper sack system of refuse collection, phased over a period of three or four years, and the first stage will come into operation during the early summer of 1966, when 400 sack holders will be provided on the Council-owned Whitehall Estate. Later in the year it is anticipated that another 1,100 housing units will be provided with this method of collection in the Newington Estate district.

All domestic and trade refuse is dealt with at the Controlled Tip on the seaward side of the Sandwich Road at Ebbsfleet. During 1965, 17,900 tons of refuse was collected and disposed of at the site, 13,900 tons being domestic and 4,000 tons trade refuse.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

There were no major alterations to the system of street sweeping and cleansing in the Borough, which employs a gang system with electric orderly trucks in the residential area, and individual sweepers on the sea-front and in the Town Centre streets. All roads are also swept by mechanical road sweeper/collectors once every week, and the main shopping streets and promenades are regularly washed during the Summer months by vehicles fitted with special street-washing equipment.

At the end of the year, the Works Department took delivery of a new dual-control, dual-sweep, suction-type road sweeper/collector and this should increase the efficiency of the street cleansing service in 1966. Experiments are also being conducted with various types of small suction sweepers for use on the promenades and footways, with a view to the purchase eventually of a number for this work.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

There are no rivers or streams within the Borough.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The Public Health Inspectors paid a total of 6,572 visits during the year. Information about their work including lists of notices, together with results of these notices, is to be found in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector which follows.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

The Public Health Inspectors are responsible for the administration of the Shops Act in its entirety. Further information is to be found in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960

Eight sites, to accommodate 313 caravans, have been licensed under the Act. Planning permission has been given for a further site in Manston to provide for 130 camping spaces, which is to allow for tenting during the summer months, but the permission also allows for caravans on the same site. All sites are subject to the conditions laid down in the Model Standards as modified for holiday sites. There are no residential sites in the Borough. In addition to the above, the Council have made accommodation available for 42 caravans or tents in Nethercourt Park and there is provision for overflow in the peak season at King George VI Memorial Park.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1936

There is very little smoke producing industry within the area. Steam raising plants are largely oil fired, and those which do use solid fuel and give very little trouble. Atmospheric pollution, such as there is, is largely confined to domestic smoke, and with our fortunate situation dilution and dispersal is so rapid that pollution is infinitesimal.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

The Act came into force on 1st April, 1952, and being a consolidating Act, has made very little change in administration. The following table shows the number on the register at 31st December, 1965 together with inspections and defects dealt with.

| (i) <u>Inspections</u> | <u>Number of Premises</u> | <u>Number of:</u> | |
|---|-------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| | | <u>Inspections</u> | <u>Written notices</u> |
| Factories in which Secs. 1,2,3,4,6 are enforced by Local Authority. | 35 | 11 | 1 |
| Factories not included above in which Sec. 7 is enforced by Local Authority. | 153 | 51 | - |
| Other premises | 34 | 9 | - |
| TOTAL | 222 | 71 | 1 |

(ii) Defects

No. of cases in which defects were:-

| | <u>Found</u> | <u>Remedied</u> | <u>Referred:</u> | | <u>Prosec- utions</u> |
|--------------------------|--------------|-----------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| | | | <u>To H.M. Inspector</u> | <u>By H.M. Inspector</u> | |
| Want of cleanliness | - | - | - | - | - |
| Overcrowding | - | - | - | - | - |
| Unreasonable temperature | - | - | - | - | - |
| Inadequate ventilation | - | - | - | - | - |
| Ineffective drainage | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sanitary conveniences: | | | | | |
| Insufficient | - | - | - | - | - |
| Unsuitable | - | - | - | - | - |
| Not separate for sexes | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other offences | 1 | 1 | - | - | - |

Twenty-one outworkers were registered, all of which were engaged in the making of wearing apparel.

SWIMMING POOLS & BATHS

The Marina Swimming Pool is the only one available for use by the general public. This is an open air pool under the Council's management and is operated on the continuous circulation and filtration principle.

Colorimetric tests for residual chlorine and pH values are taken daily and samples of the water despatched to the Public Health Laboratory at weekly intervals for bacteriological examination. It is not claimed that the water is sterile, but the results of these examinations have been very satisfactory.

There are four other pools in the area, these are not available to the general public, two are confined to school use, being within the school boundary, and the others form part of the recreational facilities provided at two of the caravan sites. These too are checked for residual chlorine and samples taken for bacteriological examination as with the public pool.

Three slipper baths are available for public use, one for men in Charlotte Court Conveniences and two for women at the Paragon Conveniences. Four shower baths are provided in the Pier Yard Conveniences for men, and is a new development. Shower baths are provided in a new block of conveniences on the Western Undercliff, six for men and six for women. Shower baths are available only during the summer season and are greatly appreciated by bathers.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

Five Marine Stores are registered under the Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act 1907, and two of these, being dealers in rags and bones, are also registered as offensive trades under the Public Health Act 1936.

PET ANIMALS ACT

Four premises are licensed as Pet shops under the provisions of this Act. These are visited to ensure that the animals are being kept properly and that there is no nuisance.

S E C T I O N VI

H O U S I N G

CLEARANCE AREAS

Two areas were represented during the year, namely Truro Road (six houses) and School Lane (three houses). Both areas were unopposed, and the Truro Road Area was confirmed by the Minister.

The areas referred to in the 1964 Report, i.e. Hertford Street, Meeting Street Nos. 1 and 2, and Staffordshire Street were confirmed after Public Inquiries. Rehousing and clearance had not commenced at the end of the year. The Alfred Cottages Area has been vacated and the site cleared.

The following is a copy of the housing return made to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government which gives details of houses demolished etc.

A. HOUSES DEMOLISHED

| <u>In clearance areas</u> | <u>Houses</u> | <u>Displaced:</u> | |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| | <u>Demolished</u> | <u>Persons</u> | <u>Families</u> |
| (i) Houses unfit for human habitation | 31 | 32 | 4 |
| (ii) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement | - | - | - |
| (iii) Houses on land acquired under Sec. 43 (2) Housing Act, 1957. | - | - | - |

| <u>Not in Clearance Areas</u> | <u>Houses</u> <u>demolished</u> | <u>Persons</u> | <u>Displaced:</u> <u>Families</u> |
|---|------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|
| (iv) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section. 17 (1) Housing Act. | 2 | 9 | 3 |

B. UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED

| | <u>Number</u> |
|---|---------------|
| (v) Under Sects. 16(4), 17(1), and 35 (1), Housing Act 1957. | 2 |
| (vi) Under Sects. 17(3) and 26 Housing Act 1957. | - |
| (vii) Parts of building closed under Sect. 18 Housing Act 1957. | 3 |

C. UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT

| | <u>By owner</u> | <u>By Local Authority</u> |
|---|-----------------|---------------------------|
| (viii) After informal action by Local Authority | 147 | - |
| (ix) After formal notice under: | | |
| (a) Public Health Acts | - | - |
| (b) Sects. 9 and 16 Housing Act | 2 | - |
| (x) Under Sec. 24 Housing Act | - | - |

Housing Accommodation

| | |
|---|-------|
| (1) Number of new applications for housing accommodation received during the current year | 465 |
| (2) Number of families rehoused from current waiting list | 95 |
| (3) Number of Corporation tenants transferred to other accommodation within the Corporation Housing Estates | 103 |
| (4) New properties completed during 1965/66:- | |
| 12 - 2 bed houses "Saints Road" Development | |
| 24 - 1 " flats "Mentmore" " | |
| (5) Number of properties at present under control of Corporation | 2,492 |

S E C T I O N VII

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES

The following cases of infectious diseases were notified to the Department during the year:-

| <u>Disease</u> | <u>No.</u> |
|-------------------|------------|
| Scarlet Fever | 5 |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | 14 |
| Acute Pneumonia | 2 |
| Measles | 506 |
| Whooping Cough | 3 |
| Dysentery | 9 |

None of these cases was admitted to The Infectious block of Haine Hospital, though the 14 cases of puerperal pyrexia occurred among mothers while in the maternity ward of the Ramsgate Wing of the Thanet Hospital.

It is extremely gratifying to note that the number and severity of infectious diseases occurring nowadays bears no comparison with some 25 - 50 years ago. With the introduction of diphtheria immunisation in 1940 there seemed to be a gradual decline in this sphere of public health work and with the passing years, the decline has continued, but this state of affairs should not give rise to complacency, especially in a seaside resort like Ramsgate, with the floating holiday population. At any time there is the risk of an outbreak and it is the duty of the public health staff to be aware of this potential danger and be able to deal with it accordingly.

As will be seen, measles was the only disease which occurred in any appreciable number, and this was confined to the child population. The nine cases of dysentery, however, were sporadic and had no definite connection with each other.

VACCINATION & IMMUNISATION

The County Medical Officer informs me that the following were carried out under County Council arrangements in 1965.

Smallpox Vaccination Primary 315.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination

3rd and 4th dose (Salk and Oral) 528

3 orals (complete course) 576

Diphtheria

Immunisation

Primary Injections

Triple 550
Diph./Tet. 14

Re-inforcing Injections

Triple 442
Diph./Tet. 293

TUBERCULOSIS

It was not found necessary to take any action during the year under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925, nor under Section 172 of the Public Health Act 1936.

New cases by age groups are shown below. There were no deaths from this disease during 1965.

New Cases

| Age group | Respiratory | | Non-respiratory | |
|-----------|-------------|----|-----------------|----|
| | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| 0 - 5 | - | 2 | - | - |
| 5 - 15 | - | - | - | - |
| 15 - 25 | 2 | - | - | - |
| 25 - 35 | 2 | 1 | - | - |
| 35 - 45 | 1 | 1 | - | - |
| 45 - 55 | 3 | 1 | - | - |
| 55 - 65 | - | - | - | - |
| Over 65 | - | - | - | - |
| TOTAL | 8 | 5 | - | - |

The number of cases remaining on the Tuberculosis Register at 31st December, 1965 was:-

| | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|-----------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| Respiratory | 93 | 60 | 153 |
| Non-respiratory | 15 | 9 | 24 |
| | 108 | 69 | 177 |

VENEREAL DISEASES

A special clinic for the treatment of these diseases is held at Margate Wing, Isle of Thanet Hospital. The days and times are:-

| | | |
|---------|---------|-------------------|
| Friday: | Males | 11 a.m. - 12 noon |
| | Females | 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. |

The Medical Officer in charge of the Clinic informs me that during the year 1965, a total of 51 new cases from Ramsgate were treated, i.e. 1 syphilis, 13 gonorrhoea and 37 other conditions. In previous years, the number of new cases has been considerably lower, and at this stage it is not possible to express an opinion on the future trend.

SECTION VIII

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

I am indebted to the Public Health Inspectors for the following information:-

MILK

There is one pasteurising plant operating within the Borough, this plant serving an area extending far beyond the Borough boundaries. Carton packaging continues to be used for distribution through the retail shops, and glass bottles for delivery by roundsmen and school milk. In spite of the care exercised by the dairies, we still have the occasional complaint of dirty milk bottles. There is misuse by some consumers, but the dairy has a responsibility to ensure that the bottle shall be clean before being filled with milk.

LICENCES

This is the last year of the quinquennial period and there has been no general issue of distributors licences during the year. There have been changes necessitating the issue of new licences, and the total now stands at 90.

EXAMINATION AND TESTING

Samples of milk are taken at regular intervals at all points in the chain of distribution and submitted for examination by the methylene blue and phosphatase tests. School milk is sampled at the same time and the results forwarded to the Education Authority. A total of 72 samples were taken during the year. All passed the methylene and phosphatase test.

ADULTERATION

Fifty-five formal samples were taken and submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis, all were reported as being genuine.

The presumptive standard for milk as laid down in the Sale of Milk Regulations is 3 per cent fat and 8.5 per cent solids not fat. This standard has been exceeded in Ramsgate over many years as is indicated in the comparative figures for the past four years given overleaf:-

| | <u>1965</u> | <u>1964</u> | <u>1963</u> | <u>1962</u> |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Fats | 4.30 | 4.23 | 4.46 | 4.28 |
| Solids not fats | 8.85 | 8.78 | 9.0 | 8.93 |
| Total | 13.15 | 13.01 | 13.46 | 13.21 |

A break-down of the figures for 1965 only gives:-

| | | | | |
|------|-----------------------|----------|----------------|-------|
| (i) | Pasteurised milk | Average: | Fats | 3.66 |
| | | | Solids not fat | 8.67 |
| | | | Total | 12.33 |
| (ii) | Channel Islands Milk: | Average: | Fats | 4.55 |
| | | | Solids not fat | 9.09 |
| | | | Total | 13.64 |

(Channel Islands milk must contain not less than 4% fats).

ICE CREAM

Thirty-eight samples of ice cream were taken and forwarded to the Public Health Laboratory for examination and grading according to the methylene blue test in the manner indicated in Circular 8/59 Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations 1959, and the grading was as follows:-

| | |
|-----------|----|
| Grade I | 25 |
| Grade II | 8 |
| Grade III | 5 |
| Grade IV | - |

All samples falling into Grade III were investigated and follow-up samples showed an improvement.

Standard

Three samples of ice cream were submitted for analysis by the Public Analyst and were found to comply with the standards laid down in the Food Standard (Ice Cream) Regulation, 1959.

In general ice cream sold from shops in the town is prepacked, the sale of loose ice cream in mixed shops is not discouraged. There is a flourishing trade in soft ice cream sold direct from the freezer, this has extended to the mobile trader.

FOOD PREMISES

These are subject to frequent inspection by the Public Health Inspectors and formal action is taken should it become necessary. Complaints made by the general public are investigated forthwith and suitable recommendations made to improve conditions.

Eight bakehouses only were operating at the end of the year, the smaller type of establishment is gradually disappearing to make way for the larger combine, and in a number of cases are being replaced by modern and more hygienic retail shops.

Sixty-three premises are registered under Section 16(1)(b) of the Food and Drugs Act 1955, to prepare various types of preserved and manufactured foods, as under:-

| | |
|---|----|
| Preparation of sausages, cooked and pickled meats | 41 |
| Preparation of cooked meats only | 8 |
| Bacon smoking and ham curing | 1 |
| Fish curing and smoking | 2 |
| Cooking and preparation of shellfish | 2 |
| Manufacture of pickles | 2 |
| Manufacture of sugar confectionery | 7 |

Twenty-two premises are registered for the trade of fish frying.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS

There is no slaughtering carried on in the Borough.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

A total of 6 tons 6 cwt. 1 qtr. 21 lbs. of unsound meat and various tinned goods etc., was surrendered.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955 - ADULTERATION

One hundred and thirty samples (fifty-six formal and seventy-four informal) were taken by the Public Health Inspectors and submitted for analysis by the Public Analyst:-

| <u>Description</u> | <u>Formal</u> | <u>Informal</u> |
|---------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Milk | 55 | 1 |
| Milk Shake | - | 1 |
| Cordial | - | 2 |
| Saccharine tablets | - | 2 |
| Yeast tablets | - | 1 |
| Bronchial pastilles | - | 1 |
| Butter | 1 | 1 |

| <u>Description</u> | <u>Formal</u> | <u>Informal</u> |
|--------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Custard powder | - | 1 |
| Biscuits | - | 4 |
| Tinned Meats | - | 11 |
| Horseradish sauce | - | 1 |
| Sauce | - | 3 |
| Vinegar | - | 2 |
| Instant Whip | - | 2 |
| Ground almonds | - | 3 |
| Jelly | - | 2 |
| Tinned Fish | - | 1 |
| Cinnamon | - | 1 |
| Evaporated milk | - | 1 |
| Tomato Juice | - | 1 |
| Sweet corn | - | 2 |
| Cloves | - | 1 |
| Baking Powder | - | 1 |
| Rice | - | 2 |
| Drinking Chocolate | - | 1 |
| Spaghetti | - | 1 |
| Medicines | - | 5 |
| Ice Cream | - | 3 |
| Fruit Drinks | - | 1 |
| Cheese spread | - | 1 |
| Mincement | - | 1 |
| Confectionery | - | 2 |
| Margarine | - | 1 |
| Glace Cherries | - | 1 |
| Dried Fruits | - | 5 |
| Jam | - | 1 |
| Soup | - | 1 |
| Suet | - | 1 |
| Dried Vegetable | - | 1 |

PUBLIC HEALTH (PRESERVATIVES IN FOOD) REGULATIONS

In cases where appropriate the Public Analyst examined the foregoing samples for the presence of preservatives, all were declared to be within the prescribed limits.

SHELLFISH

The Pegwell Bay Shellfish Regulations prohibit the sale for human consumption of cockles gathered in Pegwell Bay unless, and until, they have been sterilised by steam under pressure for six minutes. There is no steam sterilisation in the Borough and cockles are not being collected from the Bay for sale. All cockles sold in the district are brought in from other areas under guarantee of sterilisation. Some mussels and whelks are collected locally and cooked on the vendors own premises, Usually it is necessary to augment local supplies by importation from other areas.

PORT HEALTH ADMINISTRATION, 1965

| Ships from: | Number | Tonnage | No. inspected: | | No. reported as having had infectious disease on board. |
|---------------|--------|---------|----------------|---------|---|
| | | | By MOH | By PHI. | |
| Foreign ports | 999 | 109,375 | - | 14 | - |
| Coastwise | 1,278 | 8,000 | - | - | - |
| TOTAL | 2,277 | 117,375 | - | 14 | - |

Character of shipping and trade

Passenger traffic:

| | |
|----------------------------|--------|
| No. of passengers inwards | 32,725 |
| No. of passengers outwards | 32,720 |

Cargo traffic:

Principal imports - Motor vehicles, timber, wheat
and fertilizer.

Principal exports - Motor vehicles and spares

A separate yearly report has been submitted to the Ministry of Health in which was set out details of all health services available for the port. There have been no changes in any of these arrangements during the year 1965.

Cross Channel - Hovercraft Service

During 1965 plans were outlined for the port to be used as a Hoverport and arrangements were in hand to provide suitable buildings to accommodate H.M. Immigration, Customs and Health Control. By the end of the year final arrangements had been made and it was anticipated that the service could commence in Spring 1966.

PUBLIC HEALTH (AIRCRAFT) REGULATIONS, 1952

No action was found necessary under these Regulations, which deal with all matters of health in the case of passengers or crew arriving from abroad or from infected areas by air.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my report on the work of the Public Health Inspectors during 1965.

There has been no variation in the staff position during the year. Both Mr. Liles and Mr. Mansell were successful in the examination for the Certificate of Inspector of Meat and Other Foods, and Mr. Longley, on entering his second year of training has been authorised as an inspector under Section 52 of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, to enable him to assist in the inspection of offices etc.

Very little progress has been made with the compulsory improvement of houses under the Housing Act, 1964, a start has been made on a survey, there will be more on this in the next report. Work on the clearance of unfit houses proceeds and there has been a visible impact on the problem.

The staff of the department has worked well, and I thank them all for their co-operation, also I have to thank the Chairman and members of the Committee for their confidence and support, and the Medical Officer of Health, Doctor Brocklehurst, now unfortunately nearing the end of his association with this Authority. We have all appreciated his helpful and friendly manner during the time he has been with us.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

C. H. WELLER,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

HOUSING

Alfred Cottages

All the houses in this area have been vacated and the site cleared. This site is being used for temporary car parking pending future development.

Hertford Street

None of the houses in this area were vacated at the end of the year. Negotiations for acquisition are proceeding, but are somewhat protracted. These long drawn out negotiations, produced a feeling of frustration and in the meantime houses, already unfit, are deteriorating, thus occupiers have to put up with these unsatisfactory conditions much longer than seems reasonable.

Areas Declared in 1964

Meeting Street No. 1 Area

Compulsory purchase order confirmed, without modification, in February, 1965.

Meeting Street No. 2 Area

Compulsory Purchase Order. The public inquiry was held in January, 1965 and confirmation was received in June. In this case there were some modifications. Certain of the other buildings were re-categorised and the Ministry Inspector did not agree that all were "dangerous to health", but he did consider all the houses to be unfit. However, the area boundaries remained unchanged, thus this area will ultimately become available for the proposed development.

Staffordshire Street Area

Compulsory Purchase Order. The public inquiry was held in May, 1965 and confirmation received in September. Again there was some modification. One of the houses was considered to be not so far unfit that it should be included in the Clearance Area, and one of the other buildings was considered not to be dangerous to health. These were, however, included as 'added lands' and the boundary remains unchanged.

Two new Clearance Areas were declared during 1965:-

1. Truro Road, Nos. 3 to 15

A Victorian terrace of six houses, formerly let off in flats, but had been allowed to become vacant, as a result the houses had been so badly damaged by vandals, that the only way to deal with them was by clearance. The Order was unopposed and was confirmed without modification.

Although the owner has plans for developing the site, demolition had not commenced at the end of the year.

2. 80, 82 and 84, School Lane

A small block of 3 cottages, patently unfit, all tenanted. The Order was unopposed but confirmation had not been received at the end of the year.

Individual Unfit Houses

Demolition Orders

Five Demolition Orders were made during the year, three of the houses have been vacated, the remaining two were still occupied and none of the houses had been demolished at the end of the year.

Closing Orders

Two houses have been closed during the year, these, because of their situation were not suitable subjects for demolition, being terrace houses they do give a certain measure of support to the adjoining property.

Three basement dwellings have been closed, two other basements were represented for closing orders, but in each case the owner agreed to carry out works to make the basements fit, and these works were completed.

The closing order on one basement was revoked, extensive works were carried out and the rooms are now fit. This basement is not let separately as a dwelling.

RENT ACT, 1957

Two applications were made for cancellation of Certificates of Disrepair, both were granted.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Applications for improvement grants are dealt with by the Borough Engineer, and in order to avoid the possibility of grants being given in unsuitable cases, such as where the property is likely to be included in a Clearance Area, all applications are referred to the Health Department for a report.

Eighty-five applications for grants were made and eighty-one granted, sixty to owner/occupiers and twenty-one to tenanted houses.

HOUSING ACT, 1964

There is no progress to report on the implementation of the Act. Some preliminary work has been done, and one application under Section 19 was received towards the end of the year and is under consideration. Discussions with the owner are proceeding and it is hoped that agreement will be reached.

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS

Regular and frequent inspections of food premises are made in an endeavour to maintain as high a standard as possible. These frequent visits are important, it means that faults can be detected and corrected at the outset, before they become serious. Co-operation from the food trader is essential if this policy is to succeed, and where that co-operation is not forthcoming, it becomes necessary to use our powers of enforcement. Thus two prosecutions have been taken during the year, the first a carry over from 1964, in which the restaurant proprietor was found guilty on a number of counts and fined a total of £100 with £10.10.0d costs. The second case also concerned a restaurant, this was a partnership, both partners were found guilty and fines were levied on each of them amounting to £42 with £10.10.0d. costs.

A further case was taken against a baker who delivered scones in a dirty tray to a hospital. The defendant pleaded guilty and was fined £20 with costs of £3.3.0d.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Prosecutions and Complaints

Prosecution was authorised under Section 2 on the complaint of a number of doughnuts delivered for a childrens' party which were found to be contaminated with bird droppings. The case had not been heard at the end of the year.

Complaints

1. Glass in bottle of milk - This concerned a large fragment of glass in an unopened bottle of milk. It is doubtful if the glass could have been detected during the bottle washing process, and the Committee decided that a warning should be sent to the dairy.
2. Insect in milk - This concerned an insect, identified as an earwig, alleged to be in the milk bottle, but found only when the milk was poured into a saucepan. The evidence was considered to be inconclusive and again a warning letter was sent.

3. Blighted Potatoes - This concerned a 56 lb. bag of potatoes, which, when opened, showed a high proportion of potatoes affected by potato blight. On being informed the retailer withdrew the remainder of his stock from sale, and the Committee decided that warnings to retailer and wholesaler would suffice.

SHELLFISH

The sale of shellfish from stalls in the Pier Yard continues as in previous years. Mussels, cockles and whelks and jellied eels are offered for sale, served on small plates and eaten on the spot. Washing facilities with hot and cold water with a deep sink and a wash-hand basin are provided in a nearby kiosk for the exclusive use of the stallholders. Although the washing facilities are used and the stallholders keep themselves clean, the site becomes fouled by the customers throwing the inedible parts on to the ground, where it gets trodden in. This method of selling open food for immediate consumption is open to many objections, and it would be preferable if this trade was carried on in a manner more compatible with present ideas of food hygiene.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

There is no problem here with atmospheric pollution, we have no heavy industry and such smoke as there is, is almost entirely domestic. Individual premises, where steam raising and heating is required, have gone over to oil and with proper control this does not produce visible smoke. Smutting problems have been eliminated by the use of cladding to chimney stacks, which has given sufficient insulation to prevent the too rapid cooling of fine gases. So far as domestic smoke is concerned, there is an increasing emphasis on central heating installations, this alone does much to reduce the emission of smoke.

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

There have been some extensions to existing site licences during the year, and one new site has been licensed, this is a large field in Manston which is licensed to accommodate a mixture of tents and caravans to a total of 130 spaces, and limited to the touring season only, that is 1st July to 30th September. The position now is as follows:- The eight sites with existing licences have spaces for 363 caravans, one of these, a small site for 25 caravans, has gained permission for all the year round use for holiday purposes only. There are no residential sites in the area. In all other cases caravans remain on the site all the year but remain unoccupied during the winter months. A few spaces are left for touring caravans, but there is no space on these licensed sites for tents.

The new licence granted during the year is intended to provide a site for touring caravans and tents only, this site did not become operational during the year, but it is hoped that it will do something to reduce the unauthorised camping that occurs during the peak season.

The Council maintain a site for tented camping in Nethercourt Park, this is provided with facilities to the standard set in the Model Conditions, and improvements are made each year. Further provision is made for overflow in the peak season at King George VI Memorial Park.

There remains the problem of unauthorised camping during the holiday season. Here there is a complete absence of facilities. Water supply is not available, there is no arrangement for the removal of refuse and sites become littered and fouled. Any vacant plot in the vicinity of the coast is likely to suffer from this sort of invasion and control is very difficult.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

The administration of the Shops Act remains with the Public Health Department and 428 visits have been made during the year, and observations have been maintained during the evenings and on Sundays. The late day opening on Fridays by the multiple food shops has proved very popular, in the present state of the law these shops cannot keep open beyond 8 p.m., and there has been no tendency to go beyond this hour.

The Shops Half Day Closing Act came into force during August. This had the effect of recinding any order made to fix the weekly half day, but did not relieve the shopkeepers of the obligation to close on one half day in every week. The shopkeeper may now fix his own half closing day, which cannot be varied more often than once in every three months. In Ramsgate this has meant that the order requiring Greengrocers and Fruiterers, to close on Thursdays at 1 p.m., is revoked, there was no other order in force, so that so far as other trades are concerned, there has been no change.

It is customary for most shops to make Thursday the weekly half day, particularly in the Town centre, and there has been no variation.

The Council has given shopkeepers the full benefit of the concessions permitted in holiday resorts, thus during the months of June, July, August and September, the peak holiday season, all shops may keep open until 10 p.m., and the obligation to close on one half day each week is waived. Furthermore, the sale of articles associated with the holiday trade and all classes of foodstuffs with the exception of butchers meat, is permitted all day on Sundays during this period. It is usually found necessary to remind some shopkeepers to return to normal closing hours at the end of the holiday season.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Registered Premises

The total number of premises registered under the Act was 538 at the end of the year. It is considered that there are still some occupiers who have failed to register, and these will be found as inspection proceeds.

Inspections

A total of 345 visits were made during the year, and 146 premises received a general inspection, that is 27.5% of the premises registered. Eighty-four premises were found not to comply fully with the provisions of the Act, occupiers were written to in each case. No prosecutions have been taken. Regulations concerning sanitary accommodation and washing facilities do not come into operation until 1st January 1966, and the provisions concerning overcrowding are not in force until 1st August 1967. In these cases, where premises fall short of the requirements, occupiers have been informed of their obligations in the expectation that compliance will be secured before the appointed day. During the course of re-inspection it was found that 41 of the contraventions noted had been remedied.

Inspectors

The Public Health Inspectors have been appointed as Officers under Section 52(i) and the inspection of offices and shops forms part of their general duties. In order to assist and to expedite the work, the pupil Public Health Inspector was appointed under Section 52(i) in July 1965, he was then entering his second year of training. As he is on a "block release" course, he is only available for part of the year, and at first could only work under supervision.

Lighting

Attention was given to lighting in shops and offices during the autumn. No standard for lighting is laid down, there is merely that rather vague reference to 'suitable and sufficient', and as this is so much a matter of personal opinion, we have used the I.E.S. recommended code as a yard stick.

Shops in general appear to be adequately lighted on the sales floor, corridors and ancillary rooms fall below the recommended standards. Stock rooms, with their rows of shelves, appear to be particularly difficult to illuminate adequately at any time of the day. Most of the offices inspected also fall short of the recommended standard, occasionally figures of over 30 lumens per square foot were found, but this is rare.

Lighting surveys are carried out with the photometer, and readings are taken at desk or working level. Most inspections are carried out in daylight, this means that the level of artificial illumination has to be estimated, and it is found that by subtracting the daylight reading from the reading for combined daylight and artificial light a reasonably accurate estimate is obtained.

The assessment of glare is a difficult matter, no comment is made on this as no personal inconvenience has been experienced during the course of inspections, and so far as I am aware there is no other means of assessment.

Exemptions

No applications for exemption from any part of the Act have been received.

(A) REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

| <u>Class of Premises</u> | <u>Number of premises registered during the year</u> | <u>Number of registered premises at end of year</u> | <u>Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection</u> |
|--|--|---|---|
| Offices | 5 | 147 | 21 |
| Retail Shops | 34 | 288 | 111 |
| Wholesale shops, Warehouses | 2 | 33 | 3 |
| Catering establish- ments open to the public, canteens | 14 | 68 | 11 |
| Fuel storage depots | - | 2 | - |
| Totals: | 55 | 538 | 146 |

Total number of visits of all kinds by inspectors to registered premises under the Act 345.

(B) ANALYSIS OF CONTRAVENTIONS

| <u>Section</u> | <u>Number of Contraventions found</u> | <u>Section</u> | <u>Number of Contraventions Found</u> |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|--|
| 4 | Cleanliness - 9 | 13 | Sitting facilities 4 |
| 5 | Overcrowding - 5 | 14 | Seats (Sedentary Workers) - |
| 6 | Temperature - 32 | 15 | Eating Facilities - |
| 7 | Ventilation - 9 | 16 | Floors, passage & stairs 14 |
| 8 | Lighting - 2 | 17 | Fencing exposed parts machinery 1 |
| 9 | Sanitary Conveniences - 38 | 18 | Protection of young persons from dangerous machinery - |
| 10 | Washing Facilities - 51 | 24 | First Aid General Provisions 81 |
| 11 | Supply of Drinking Water - 4 | | |
| 12 | Clothing Accommodation - 5 | | |

Accidents

It is a requirement that accidents occurring during the course of employment and which necessitate absence from work over a period of three days or more shall be notified to the local authority, to enable an investigation to be made into the cause and to ascertain if there has been any failure to observe the requirements of the Act, for example the fencing of dangerous machinery. Seven such accidents have been reported, all of a minor nature.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

There have been no complaints concerning nuisance from noise during the year.

CINEMAS, THEATRES, DANCE HALLS

There are now two cinemas and two theatres in the Borough, these together with halls used for public dancing and other forms of entertainment and other licensed premises provide for the needs of both residents and visitors throughout the year. The number of premises licensed for public music and/or dancing in the Borough is 89, and conditions in general are satisfactory.

COMPLAINTS

The number of complaints from all sources was 558. These are attended to as quickly as possible, it is important that complaints should be dealt with promptly, and the bona fide complainant can be sure of receiving sympathetic consideration.

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT

During general observations of shops for other purposes, such as Shops Act and Food Hygiene Regulations, notice is taken of the marking of produce as required by the Merchandise Marks Act. Usually it is found that produce is marked with the country of origin; there does not appear to be any deliberate attempt to deceive the customer. It has not been found necessary to institute any proceedings under the Act.

NOTICES SERVED

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Intimation notices served | 264 |
|---------------------------|-----|

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Statutory notices served - | |
|----------------------------|--|

| | |
|--------------------------|----|
| under Public Health Acts | 16 |
|--------------------------|----|

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| under Housing Acts | 4 |
|--------------------|---|

INSPECTIONS AND VISITS

A list of inspections and visits is given hereunder:-

Public Health Act:

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| Inspections, re-inspections etc. | 901 |
| Drainage | 637 |
| Other inspections | 864 |

Housing Act:

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| Inspections, re-inspections etc. | 725 |
|----------------------------------|-----|

Food & Drugs Act:

| | |
|-------------|------|
| Inspections | 1121 |
|-------------|------|

| | |
|-----------|-----|
| Sampling: | 351 |
|-----------|-----|

Inspections and Visits:

| | |
|------------------|------|
| Under other Acts | 1973 |
|------------------|------|

IMPROVEMENTS

| | |
|----------------|----|
| Drains cleared | 63 |
|----------------|----|

| | |
|----------------|----|
| Drains amended | 19 |
|----------------|----|

| | |
|--|----|
| Other improvements to drainage systems | 30 |
|--|----|

| | |
|---|-----|
| Total number of Internal Repairs to Houses: | 340 |
|---|-----|

External Repairs:

| | |
|------------|----|
| Roofs etc. | 35 |
|------------|----|

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| Eaves gutters, rain water pipes etc. | 23 |
|--------------------------------------|----|

| | |
|--------|----|
| Others | 57 |
|--------|----|

| | |
|--|-----|
| Miscellaneous items of repair or improvements effected in dwellinghouses, factory premises, restaurants etc: | 125 |
|--|-----|

DISINFECTION

Seven rooms were disinfected following infectious disease and other conditions where occupiers had made a request and 5 sets of bedding were destroyed.

The existing Disinfecting Station in Broad Street is to be abandoned and the services moved to the new Central Depot in Princes Road. In considering this removal it was decided that the existing steam disinfector, which had been in operation for many years, would need replacement. Having regard to the cost of such replacement and the decreasing use to which the plant is being put, it would appear that the maintenance of such a plant would be an unnecessary expense. Therefore, arrangements have been made with The Isle of Thanet Hospital Management Committee for disinfections of bedding and the like to be carried out at the Haine Hospital plant, for which, of course, a charge will be made. This scheme was put into operation during 1965, although the Disinfecting Station has not yet been removed.

PEST CONTROL

The Public Health Inspectors are frequently called upon for assistance and advice where insect infestations occur, indeed infestations are sometimes found during the course of other inspections. The incidence of fleas and bugs is reducing; this type of infestation can be controlled, and only becomes a problem where there is insufficient attention to personal and household cleanliness, but there are occasions when these pests are introduced by accident.

Complaints of other forms of infestation are received from time to time and occasionally we are called upon to identify some unusual form. The staff of the Natural History Museum are very helpful in this respect and have never failed to identify any specimens sent to them and to advise on the feeding habits and methods of control.

There are the ubiquitous cockroaches, frequently associated with some form of structural defects, which can be very difficult when they get into a central heating system, where there are inaccessible pipe ducts. The Department is always willing to help, but really it is the responsibility of the occupier to keep this creature under control. Each case is treated on its merits. Liquid or powder insecticides are used as circumstances demand, and these incorporate one or other of the residual insecticides, i.e. D.D.T. or B.H.C., and so far there has been no evidence of insect resistance.

The following table shows the number of premises treated together with the type of infestation:-

| | Council Property: | | Other Property: | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| | <u>Premises</u> | <u>Rooms</u> | <u>Premises</u> | <u>Rooms</u> |
| Bugs | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| Fleas | 24 | 112 | 16 | 104 |
| Flies, beetles, insects etc. | 18 | 37 | 8 | 23 |

In addition 39 premises were treated for wasps' nests.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT

One full time rodent operator is employed to deal with complaints of rodent infestations and treatments are carried out in all classes of property. A charge is made for the treatment of business premises but private dwelling houses are treated free of charge. It must be repeated that the occupier is responsible for keeping his premises free from rats and mice, the Council is willing to help but the occupier has a duty to notify the Council and to carry out such work of proofing as may be necessary.

In investigating complaints it is usual to survey the adjoining property as it is unlikely that the rat would confine its activities to one house only. The few agricultural holdings in the area are surveyed from time to time, mainly to ensure that treatments are being carried out. Farmers usually carry out their own treatments and do not often need our assistance.

The controlled tip on Sandwich Road is kept under observation, any signs of infestation are quickly noted and dealt with. Treatments are usually carried out by Warfarin and in general excellent results are achieved, there has been no indication of Warfarin resistance.

Sewer treatments are carried out at six monthly intervals, the first treatment of the year is preceded by test baiting which sets the pattern for both treatments. Sewer treatment is an important part of rodent control, unfortunately we seem unable to clear the sewers completely because there are parts of the sewer that are completely inaccessible, but we have secured a good measure of control. Because of this inaccessibility we do not consider we should get any better results by the use of more virulent poisons.

